

Sheffield community vaccination update

8 April 2022

What is happening in Sheffield?

As of 4 April, over 428,900 people in Sheffield have had both doses of the covid-19 vaccination and more than 318,000 over have had their booster jab which is a brilliant number. However, this also means that more than 110,100 people haven't had their first dose of the jab. Covid hasn't gone away, cases are still high even if restrictions have been lifted.

76% of us are double vaccinated, let's keep it going. Covid vaccines are safe and save lives. When fully vaccinated, your risk of being hospitalised falls by about 90%, so the risk doesn't disappear completely. It's still just as important to protect yourself and others from the virus.

Spring boosters

As you're probably aware, the NHS is now rolling out the second booster dose of the covid jab. This booster will top-up the protection from your first and second dose as well as your first booster vaccine. As it stands currently, people aged over 75, housebound patients aged over 75 and those living in care homes for older people, will be invited for a second booster covid vaccine.

The NHS will contact those eligible with details on how to make an appointment. Or you can check on the <u>National Booking Service</u> to see if you are eligible. Please don't contact your GP with enquiries about these vaccinations. Everyone who is eligible will be offered the vaccine at around six months after the booster dose over the spring and early summer.

Vaccinating children and young people

As we've already talked about in previous editions of this newsletter, the vaccination programme has now been extended to all 5-11-year-olds. Parents and guardians can book today, with appointments already available. You can book an appointment online on the National Booking Service or via Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust website.

As well as protecting children and young people against serious covid infection, by getting vaccinated, children and young people can reduce the risk of passing on the infection to others in their family and those they come into contact with.

Getting the vaccine can also make it easier for children and young people to avoid putting their lives and their education on hold because of further disruption to schools, hobbies, and social events due to the virus.

Walk-in clinics available

To increase vaccination and booster uptake, the NHS and Sheffield City Council have been working to provide clinics and support in key areas across the city.

- Page Hall Pharmacy, 17-19 Page Hall Road, Sheffield, S4 8GS. This is open Mondays – Fridays, 9am - 6.30pm and Saturdays, 9am - 5.30pm
- Upwell Pharmacy, 119-121 Upwell Street, Sheffield, S4 8AN, is open Mondays Fridays, 9am - 6.30pm
- St Oswald's Church, Abbeydale & Bannerdale Roads, Sheffield, S7 2D. The clinic is open Monday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday, 9am - 4pm
- 1AST Pharmacy, 236 Abbeydale Road, S7 1FL, is open Mondays Fridays, 9am –
 5pm
- Wicker Pharmacy, 55 Wicker, S3 8HT. This is open Mondays/Thursdays/Fridays, 8am – 5pm

For regular updates on walk-in clinics across Sheffield, visit Sheffield Teaching Hospital website for more details.

Aspiring Communities Together (ACT) and their covid work

We want to say a big thank you to all of our brilliant community groups and organisations across the city for your tireless work throughout this pandemic.

We went down to visit Abdul Shaif and the brilliant team from ACT Sheffield who told us all about the tireless work they've been doing with local people. The team used funding from NHS Sheffield CCG to help their communities through the covid pandemic.

The volunteers have been vital in discussing vaccine hesitancy with others who may be unsure within their community and tackling misinformation. Community organisations like ACT are vital in connecting with people across the city. Please watch these two videos here and here to hear more about their important work.

Contact us on sheccg.comms@nhs.net to tell us about the work you've been doing so we can highlight it in the newsletter.

Frequently asked questions

Our GPs and vaccination teams hear questions from patients and community groups about the development of the vaccines. We have addressed a common question below.

My child has already had COVID-19 and has built up natural immunity. Why do they still need the vaccine?

The COVID-19 vaccine should give your child stronger protection than natural immunity from previous infection against serious complications of infection – including any future waves due to new variants.

Your child should also have some protection from the mild symptoms, and vaccination lowers the risk they will pass the virus on to others around them.it.

Other info

- NHS Sheffield CCG FAQs
- Government website https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/covid-19-vaccinationprogramme